Email: news@arubatoday.com Wednesday, January 28, 2009



Price of a barrel of petroleum today:

oy carnivo

US\$ 41.58

INSIDE TODAY **U.S. NEWS**



Snow is seen on the south grounds of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2009, as President Barack Obama walks back to the Oval Office after a trip to Capitol Hill to meet with House and Senate Republicans.

> See INTERNATIONAL **NEWS**

SPORTS NEWS

HOT ROD



Andy Roddick of the United States reacts after Serbia's Novak Djokovic retired from their Men's singles match at the Australian **Open Tennis Championship** in Melbourne, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2009. .

See Sports Today

Breaking News

Fibro is well and alive

PALM BEACH - Executive Chef Matt Boland goes swimming and snorkeling almost every day, for various reasons, he explains, but mostly as a stress-busting, calorie-burning activity. Over the past years he has charted the waters around the hotels and he especially favors the area across from the Tamarijn beach resort where sea turtles

Chef Matt has been tracking an ailing turtle for a while, in that area, perhaps he got caught in a lot of fishing line and got tangled, but as a result he was suffering from large growths, which Chef Matt and his friend Dave Marr from Boston cut off him, and he seemed really happy and grateful, when they encountered him on consequent visits.

Continued on Page 3



In times of world wide economic downturn

Airport Union STA demands salary increase of almost 25 %

Management deems the increase neither realistic nor responsible



Read Page 4





Wednesday, January 28, 2009 LOCAL





Bahamas resort lays off 181 as crisis cuts tourism



NASSAU, Bahamas— A big Bahamas resort says it has laid off nearly a fifth of its employees as the world economic crisis slashes tourism across the Caribbean.

A statement from the Westin and Sheraton Grand Bahama Our Lucaya Resort says 181 employees, or about 18 percent of its beachfront workforce, have been let go.

The statement Sunday said hotel bookings are sliding "with no evidence of improvement," as the U.S. recession keeps hundreds of visitors at home.

The resort is owned by White Plains, New York-based Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc.

The nearby Atlantis resort has dismissed about 800 workers this season, while Baha Mar Resorts Ltd. laid off some 80 employees at two Bahamas locations.





























LOCAL A3 Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Fibro is well and alive







Continued from Front Page This year, following the tropical ocean conditions in September, the underwater

nickname, you know from

landscape was changed and Chef Matt could not find Fibro, which became the turtle's

fibro-something, the name of his disease, which Chef Matt can never remember since it has nothing to do with herbs or French cuisine . . . and he has been looking for him for about 5 months and feared for the worst because all of the turtle's favorite usual hiding spots shifted.

Saturday when Dave and Sheila came to visit from Boston they went out and to snorkel and Dave said "I want to see that turtle," he was determined. So they looked, and looked, and looked, and like it was "meant to be," found him.

He is alive and well, some of the growths on his shell are gone, and the dauntless snorkelers observed him peacefully munching on grass and "he was happy to see us," says Chef Matt, "he came up for a few breaths and swam with us for a while ...wow . . . it was an unforgettable moment."

Pictured here Chef Matt above and under water. Also pictures of Fibro being treated from February 08 and April 08 and then the recent encounter on January 09. Chef Matt is the Executive Chef of the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa. 🔲





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Buccaneer Restaurant is an island tradition for over 25 years that serve creative dishes prepared with a European touch with irresistible secret flavorings which continue to lure guests back, again and again. Feast on fresh Caribbean catch in one of the cozy booths with a view of an aquarium at each seat, surrounded by tropical splendor and nautical decor, Our second dining room resembles an underwater cave, complete with a 7,500 gallon saltwater aquarium, unseen elsewhere. Our friendly staff is here to give you the "Welcome Aboard" feeling and the chef-owner will personally take care of you.





Ex-Hadicurari BBQ & Grill with the same owner's. We do our own daily fishing so we serve the freshest seafood on the Island.

Very reasonable price, exciting menu and **NO SERVICE CHARGE**

Dinner from 5:30 - 10:00

Monday - Saturday



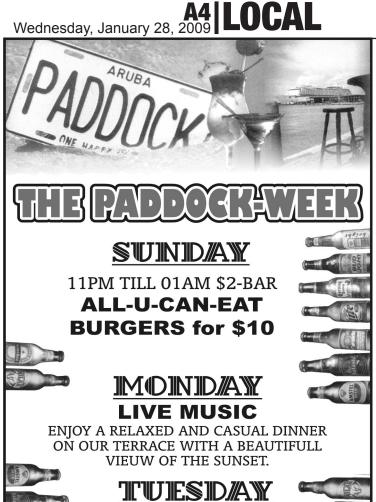
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Aruba TODAY



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Live Music "DUTCH MEAL" Weekly something different

DUTCH HAPPY HOUR from 5 till 7pm Half Price on 1 BEER and 1 MIX DRINKS! **FREE SNACKS!!**





In times of world wide economic downturn

Airport Union STA demands salary increase of almost 25 %

Management deems the increase neither realistic nor responsible



ORANJESTAD - AAA N.V. through this press release would like to share its side of the story regarding the negotiations for the collective working agreement with the board of STA. The collective working agreement in force mandatory requires that one of the parties formally terminates the agreement ultimately 4 months before the end of the year. If not, the agreement is automatically renewed for another year. Although neither STA nor AAA has thus terminated the actual collective working agreement, Management of AAA honored the request of STA's board to start negotiations for a new collective working agreement with commencing date of January 1st 2009. The conversations have started in the month of November, while during the last few weeks the conversations focused on the financial conditions.

Last Friday, January 23, when STA's board put the negotiations on hold, the positions of both parties can be summarized as follows: STA: 1. a general salary increase for the years 2009, 2010 and 2011 of respectively 13.9%, 5.5% y 3.5% therefore totally 22.9%; 2. STA's board opposes re-introduction of the system salary increases or bonuses based on the employee's performance.

AAA: 1. a general increase of the salary, based on on the principle of indexation with a minimum and a maximum. Practically this would mean a salary increase of more or less 8 percent of the average AAA CAO salary of 4,300 Florins. 2. Re-introduction of performance based salary increases or bonuses; 3. Improvement of several other labor conditions such as increases of anniversary bonus, shift allowance, bashi premie, cashiers allowance and no sick leave bonus. With today's world economic crisis, it's almost unimaginable that a company would risk raising the salaries of its employees with all the negative predictions for the world's economy.AAA is therefore convinced that their offer is both fair and reasonable. With an increase of 8 percent in a period of worldwide economic downturn and while other companies are freezing salaries and/or considering lay offs, management shows its good faith to their employees AAA's management hopes that the members of STA, other than their board, will see that it is completely unrealistic to demand labor conditions causing a salary increase of almost 25 percent in this time of worldwide economic recession.

AAA' management further wishes to express its disappointment in STA's board opposition to reintroduce the system of performance based bonuses/salary increases, therewith denying the employees' opportunity for personal development and growth.

As to STA's board's false accusations as if AAA's management did not speak the truth when it said it would appeal the Court of Appeal's ruling about the salary systems, AAA's management wishes to bring the following forward. In first instance AAA in fact did want to appeal this ruling. However, as STA's board advised its members, not involved in the ruling, not await the ruling of the highest court and start a court case themselves, AAA decided not to submit the appeal and await the case to be initiated by these employees.



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Pepia Est completes wine training

Restaurants empower staff with wine knowledge



By Jan FalconeORANJESTAD - Pepia Est,
a popular wine and liquor
importer, recently wrapped

up a special course geared to casual dining operators. The emphasis of the new "Ascend" program is on





service, as the more casual dining establishments turn over many more tables than fine dining restaurants, and competition among them is fierce. Therefore, some knowledge of wine and helping the customer know what they want increases sales as well as improves the dining experience of the clients. The true art of selling is finding out what people want, and then helping them get it.

One of the purposes

of the Ascend program is to make servers overcome being uncomfortable bringing up the subject of wine at the table. Customers may lack confidence in their own wine knowledge, and in the absence of assistance from the server, may not order any wine at all. The program, rather than squandering valuable training time trying to teach servers wine knowledge and food and wine pairing, focuses on teaching servers how to approach the table and bring up the subject of wine, discover what the guests' wine preferences are (if any), and recommend a wind that meets





the guests' preferences.

Of course, pouring the wine is a skill that must be taught to servers, but it's always good manners to know how to serve our own guests a bottle of wine properly!



Storage is also important – no wine should be served at room temperature, but chilled to varying degrees, depending on the wine.

Some of the restaurants/bars who participated in the Ascend program were Café the Plaza at Renaissance Marketplace, Sopranos Piano Bar in Palm Beach, and Hadicurari fish restaurant on the beach next to Moomba.

Pepia Est owner Michael van den Berg made the classes interesting and fun for the servers, and the program was very successful. There will be more in the future. Call 582-7177 or 588-9740 for information.

Discover the Radisson Aruba



Wednesday: BBQ Night! \$19.95 per person plus service charge

Featuring mouthwatering Texas BBQ Beef Brisket, Chicken & Ribs. Accompanied by Rice, Vegetables, Gourmet Salad Bar and Dessert Station.

All You Can Eat Dinner Buffer
LagunaRestaurantAruba.com

Dinner Buffet: 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. *Kids under age 12, one per paying adult.



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Nightly Special: Fine Dining

USDA Prime Beef, Fresh Seafood and Spa Cuisine Voted "2007 Best Restaurant in the Caribbean" AAA 4-Diamond & Wine Spectator Award Winner

Choose from indoor art deco ambiance or open-air terrace dining.

Reservations Recommended



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Larimar Spa

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Larimar Spa Aruba.com



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Our outdoor lounge perched atop cascading waterfalls and open to sun, stars and cooling breezes. Liquid pleasures await...premium vodkas, scotches, cognacs, and tequilas - or choose from our Martini Madness menu. The place to start, end or spend the evening!

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Breakfast: 7:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Lunch: 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. • Dinner: 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Sunset Salute Happy Hour with Live Entertainment
Daily 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Daily 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Bar: 11:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 81 | Palm Beach | Radisson.com/Aruba | 526.6612 or 526.6613



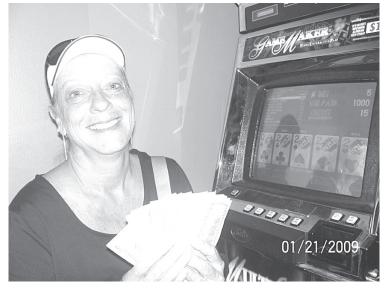
Lady Luck hits at Excelsior Casino

Arubu_TODAY



PALM BEACH - All the people in the pictures got very lucky indeed, with most winning well in excess of \$1000.00. The Excelsior Casino is located in the Holiday Inn Resort, a 600 room facility. The Casino has been in existence for 30 years; 50% of our guests come from the United States, 30% from South America and the balance from Europe. The beautiful Excelsior Casino will satisfy your taste for games of chance. One of Aruba's finest casinos, the Excelsior Casino features Las Vegas style gambling of all games of chance as well as a beautiful sports betting area and poker room. The Excelsior Casino is the only casino in Aruba to offer 3-4-5 times odds on Craps and Double Deck Blackjack. Spanish 21 and Blackjack can be delt out of a shoe at your request. And, most of all, the Excelsior Casino does not hit the soft 17. The Excelsior Casino features the largest Poker Room with limits as low as \$2-\$4 to \$50-\$100 no limit. No need to carry coins to the cashier! The Excelsior Casino's state of the art slot machines are totally Ticket-In, Ticket-





LOCAL A7 Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Fantastic Pool Party to celebrate the one-year anniversary of Club Arashi

ARASHI BEACH - Club Arashi is one year old! To celebrate this milestone a great party is coming, so mark this date on your calendar: January 31. On that day, things will start moving, shaking and sizzling from 2 pm until 2 am at Bringamosa (between Santa Cruz and Frenchman's Pass). Flyers and posters can be seen everywhere, but should you have more questions, call your favorite dj Jeroen at 5696334 or mail to dj.jeroen. aruba@hotmail.com.

Club Arashi started out as a relaxed, fun party for everyone who wanted to dance barefoot in the sand. With a borrowed generator, two turning tables, a set of boxes and a small shack to keep the sun out of his eyes, Jeroen Vader (dj Jeroen) threw a party on Arashi beach. A great bunch of people showed up and this was just the beginning. Lots of parties followed.

Dj Jeroen is now one of Aruba's hottest deejays. He can often be seen in action at Full Moon parties, Next Door, New Havana and Confessions. For the one-year anniversary bash Jeroen will be in good company: dj Kenny Fowler (Confessions), Theo Sanders (I Love Muzika), Jason (Full Moon parties), Adilio and Vince (New Taste). The entry fee for the Pool Party this Saturday is AWG. 10,--. Do come and check this fun event out!

Club Arashi Pool Party's sponsors are Polar, Bacardi Mojito, IT Moda & Stile and Taste of Belgium. Bringamosa number 8 is easy to find: just take the road to Frenchman's Pass coming from Santa Cruz and drive for about 1 mile after turning left at the first fork of the road. The venue is at your right hand side.

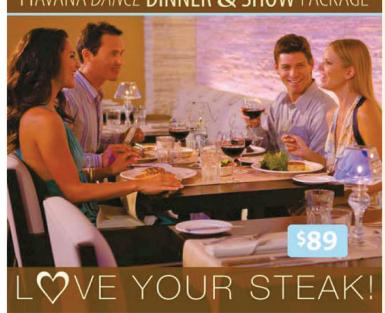








HAVANA DANCE DINNER & SHOW PACKAGE



L.G. SMITH'S

STEAK & CHOP HOUSE

www.lgsmiths.com

L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House offers mouthwatering American steak house fare and an extensive international wine list. Enjoy Aruba's premiere location for suberb dining in a stylish décor.

GREAT SHOW, GREAT STEAKS, GREAT SERVICE, GREAT PRICES

Open daily from 5:30pm until 11pm Recommended seatings 5:30pm - 6pm - 6:30pm For reservations call **523-6195** Located next to the Crystal Casino Wednesday, January 28, 2009 The Editor's Choice





Enjoy wonderful cuisine as you dine in this unique American steakhouse with a Caribbean flair.

Two diverse culinary worlds are offered: exotic Caribbean food and cowboy-size servings of USDA-certified Black Angus Beef.

Special offer:

Pay just 1/2 price for the first bottle of wine any Tuesday from 6-7:30p.m., with a three-course dinner, two persons minimum.



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Italian zest for living adds a unique

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The Editor's Choice A9 Wednesday, January 28, 2009





encounter with huge, prehistoric birds! The Aruba Ostrich Farm invites you to meet these unique birds and learn more about their behavior, natural intinct and maybe even stand on its enormous eggs. Our Savanna Lodge Restaurant serves ostrich delicacies, chicken dishes, salads, vegetarian dishes and offers a breathtaking view along Aruba's north shore. Don't forget to pay a visit to our African Art





20% discount on the tour. Not valid with other promotions.

A truly unique ambiance for both lunch and dinner

Café Rembrandt; value for money and 1st class service



PALM BEACH - Boast- ternoon reading the paper, both inside and out for a reing fine dark wood finishes while at the same go there for laxed dinner. The focus is throughout, a patrons table a big night out. Three days very much on the right baland a fantastic outdoor ter- a week there is live music, ance between price and qualrace, café Rembrandt is sure always at the right pace but to give you that comfortable never too loud. and convivial feel.

Café Rembrandt is open The staff is a solid team with for lunch, boasting various is quick, but never in a hurry, abundant experience, and Dutch delights, ranging from and most people will stay the they all share the love for sandwiches to "bitterballen" hospitality. Café Rembrandt (the original Dutch snack) to come and indulge in that has the ambiance of a bar to salads and warm dishes. unique atmosphere you will where you can spend an af- At night you can sit down only find at Café Rembrandt.

Open Daily 11AM till late Sundays 4PM till late

ity, ensuring you can eat and drink for local prices. You will discover that the service entire night. We invite you

Located across from Amazonia in the same building as the Hard Rock.

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Beachside Dining in that 'just right' atmosphere

Matthew's gets it right

thew's is the brain child of Stefan one thing; you. Legger, who owned and opereatd Also being a very wanted venue for and dinner, Matthew's offers all Rumba Bar & Grill for 6 years. events and weddings, it very advis- you can eat spareribs on Tuesdays, Matthew's redefines the concept of able to call and make a reservation, Champagne brunch on Sundays and a beachside restaurant, delivering but if you want to just give it a go, of course their famous daily happy an exquisite blend of fine dining no problem. Matthew's has a great hours with live music at the bar. and comfort food with that 'sand on bar which will keep you abreast of

your toes' feeling. The staff is ex- all the action, whether it's sports on

EAGLE BEACH - Located at Casa tremely friendly and demonstrate one of their 3 TV's, or what cockdel Mar resort in Eagle Beach, Mat-very clearly that they are there for tails the bartenders can whip up for you. Besides breakfast, lunch

Opening Hours Daily from 7:30am till 10:00pm

Daily Happy Hours Noon - 1:00pm 4:00pm - 6:00pm (with live music) 9:00pm - 10:00pm

For Resevations & Information call: Tel: 588 7300



PASEO HERENCIA - Moby Dick's has one mission; to take you to the depths of the blue ocean to taste some of the most exquisite dishes to come from the deep. What a truly beautiful restaurant this is, and what a unique interior to match. The inside is studded with artwork, amazing glass carvings, and both floors are dominated by gigantic fountains, with water running from ceiling to floor along multicoloured lit fibre optic cables. The stairway is lined by an impressive painting which runs along the

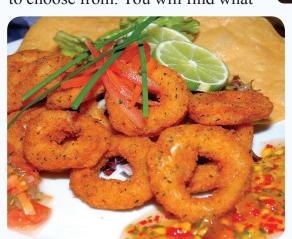
complete wall.

As good as it gets

The menu promises to be a true seafood lovers dream. Lobsters, fresh fish fillets, shrimps, Moby Dick's has everything on the menu. There is of course a land lubbers section for those who are so disposed. The wine list is impressive to say the least, and the cocktails are definitely worth

Moby Dick's shows what seafood is all about

Moby Dick's is open for lunch as well. The chef has made a well rounded, extensive menu for you to choose from. You will find what





you want, whatever your craving may be at that time. The staff is amongst the friendliest on the island, ever so attentive to your every whim. So long story short, for unbelievable seafood in unique surroundings, go to Moby Dick's. You'll have a whale of a time!

For More information and Reservations Call: 586 8333



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DAILY 3-6pm only \$33pp Shorter version of am cruise Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

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Call 586 8107 or 592 7858 Mon & Fri 5-7pm only \$27pp Open Bar included



'Aruhiba" Aruba's homemade cigar



ORANJESTAD - Beniamin Petrochi has started the newest

locally produced cigars called 'Aruhiba'. These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrochi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold cigars from outside, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba" cigars in Aruba. The process took 5 years Petrochi's dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and



process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar case is specially designed for the cigars with the logo 'Aruhiba' and 'Made in Aruba'. Petrochi considers 'Aruhiba' a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company international cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and get 1 free for \$35.00.

Located at the Historic Dutch



Windmill from 9am to 8pm. Open on Sunday.

And also at Tamarijn: open 9am - 5pm and Sunday from 9am to 1pm.

The only place to get Aruhiba and all major credit cards accepted.

We have homemade and best premium Cuban Cigars. All cigars are legal through

Call 586-7833 or 593-6177. Open for tour operators and we have a large parking space. Come and see Mr. Petrochi rolling the cigars everyday.





Pam-Pam Restaurant offers a unique gourmet dining experience

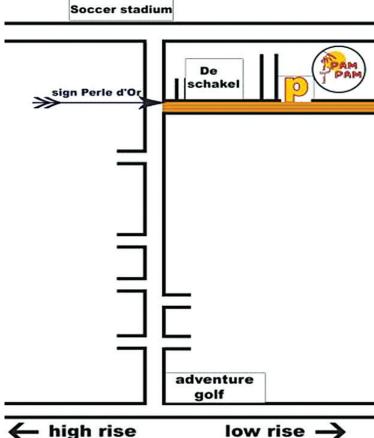




Located charming topical environs of the Perle D'Or Resort, the Pam-Pam Restaurant offers a peek at Aruba's cunucu (countryside) while still being conveniently located close to all of Aruba's prime resorts. First-time patrons will be pleasantly surprised by an appealing a la carte menu that is quite affordably priced,

Pam-Pam's house specialty is a unique method of preparation, which presently, in Aruba, is found only at their establishment and which they have dubbed their "Gourmet Meal." A grill and a collection of the freshest of ingredients for the various dishes ordered are assembled tableside, and patrons prepare the food themselves, controlling their preference of seasonings and garnishes, along with degree of doneness, providing a unique and personal taste treat. Gourmet are priced either \$15 or \$20 p.p.

It is suggested reservations for this singular dining experience be made one day in advance or at least befor 1.00 pm Pam-Pam Café and its proprietor, Nico



high rise

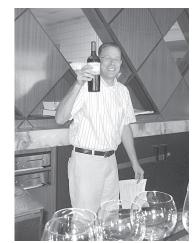
and Monique, aside from a wonderful and affordable meal provide a friendly atmosphere and a great place to get to know island life and the islanders that frequent visit this popular restaurant. Open seven days a week for

breakfast, lunch & dinner. It is a prefect stop to relax and enjoy ambiance any time of

the day true island When you want to restaurants menu, www.visitaruba.com. Phone; 5877710 or 5932660



The L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House teamis aiming for the perfect Wine List



ORANJESTAD - With the aim to create a perfect wine list, the restaurant team of L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House located at the Renaissance Resort is tasting wines and reading up on wine literature. Spreading around his knowledge, wine expert Govert van der Hout of the Arion Wine Company came by last week for a tasting. Twenty staffers, among them various kitchen employees, were all eyes, ears and palates.

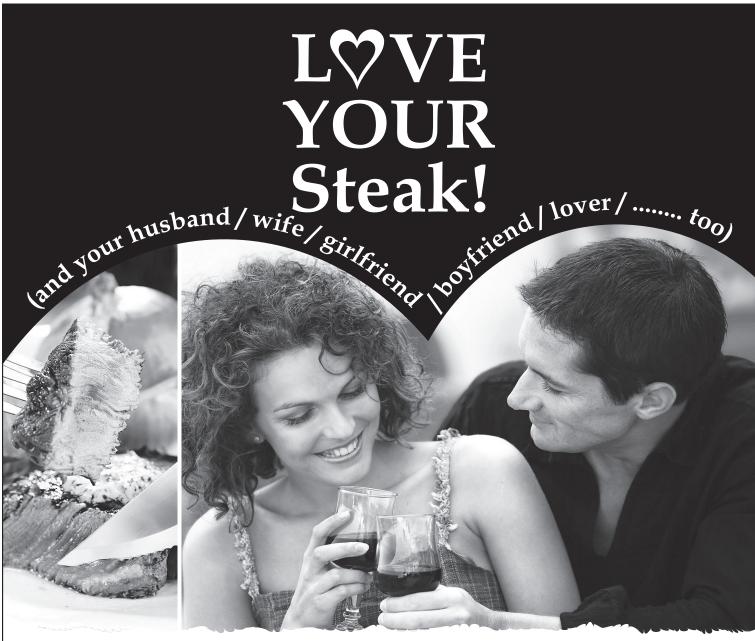
The following white wines were tasted: a Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough - New Zealand (91 points Wine Spectator); a Tamas Estates Pinot Grigio, Monterey - California and a Veramonte Chardonnay Reserve, Casablanca Valley - Chile (89 points Wine Spectator). The red beauties that were uncorked were the Alamos Malbec, Mendoza – Argentina (88 points Wine Spectator), a Veramonte Primus, Casablanca Valley – Chile (89 points Wine Spectator, 92 points Wine & Spirits Magazine) and a Simi Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley California.

The Arion Wine Company's tasting is one of a series. Different ratings of wines will be mentioned on their wine list; these include Wine Spectator, Robert Parker Wine Advocate, Wine & Spirits, Wine Enthusiast and Decanter. The L.G Smith's Steak & Chop House's wine list should be balanced; it should contain over one hundred wines, varying in taste, descent, district, color and much more.

Photos show the enthusiastic L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House team tasting Arion's excellent wines.







Next to the Crystal Casino you will find Aruba's most famous Steakhouse: **L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House**

Oranjestad's proud home of great steaks at great prices, featuring exquisitely prepared appetizers, mouth-watering Certified Angus Beef and tantalizing desserts, awaits you with open arms! Come try our Tuna Sashimi or Beef Carpaccio, our juicy N.Y. Strip or the ever popular Porterhouse and finish with a chocolate threesome, the Sweetest Taboo! L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House was voted the number 1 steakhouse in Aruba. For reservations call 523-6195 or visit www.lgsmiths.com

L.G. SMITH'S

STEAK & CHOP HOUSE

Become a collector*:

Have dinner at LG. Smith's and receive with each dinner a silver colored coin with an Aruba Landmark on it!









Dinner 2 Dinner 3

*coin received when ordering appetizer and main course, one coin per table/reservation, promotion not valid in combination with any other promotions. Management reserves the right to withdraw promotion at any moment. Keep stamp card in safe place, to be able to collect all 4

Wednesday, January 28, 2009 LOCAL

ruba 1010/4\

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, January 26, 2009.

(Shannon Stapleton/Reuters)

Stocks rise following US Steel, Amex earnings

By TIM PARADIS,

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK - Some of Wall Street's earnings anxiety is easing — at least for the time being.

The market had its second straight moderate advance Tuesday, rising after companies including United States Steel Corp. and American Express Co. managed to post profits in a difficult recession. Financial stocks that were mostly higher also lent support to the market. The major indexes briefly

stumbled after the Conference losers by 2 to 1 on the New York Board said its Consumer Confidence Index in January slipped to its lowest level since the reading's inception in 1967. The report indicated that consumers, who have already cut back drastically, are likely to remain reluctant to spend in the coming months. The index from the private research group slipped to 37.7 in January from a revised 38.6 in December.

But profit reports from U.S. Steel and American Express as well as chip-maker Texas Instruments Inc. and movie rental company Netflix Inc. reassured investors that while the fourth quarter was generally terrible for companies, it wasn't the disaster many had feared some companies are still able to make money despite the worst recession in decades.

"Remember, things have been so ugly for so long now that it doesn't take a lot to have a positive surprise," said Jim King, chief investment officer at National Penn Investors Trust Co. in Reading, Pa. He said some companies are putting up weak results but the numbers can still look respectable when compared with a year-earlier.

He expects the market's gyrations will continue as investors react to the latest corporate earnings reports and forecasts.

"The volatility is not done," King said. "You're seeing a lot of varying results from corporations."

Indeed, investors sold shares of Delta Air Lines Inc. and Verizon Communications Inc. after their results disappointed Wall Street.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 58.70, or 0.72 percent, to 8,174.73.

Broader stock indicators also advanced. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 9.14, or 1.09 percent, to 845.71, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 15.44, or 1.04 percent, to 1.504.90.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 5.52, or 1.23 percent, to 455.58.

Advancing issues outnumbered

Stock Exchange, where volume came to 1.17 billion shares.

Stocks rose moderately Monday after the National Association of Realtors said existing homes rose rather than fell in December, as had been expected.

Bond prices were mixed Tuesday. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, fell to 2.53 percent from 2.65 percent late Monday. The vield on the three-month T-bill, considered one of the safest investments, was unchanged at 0.13 percent.

The dollar fell against other major currencies, while gold prices also fell.

Light, sweet crude \$4.15 a barrel, or 9 percent, to settle at \$41.58 on New York Mercantile Exchange. Weak economic data, including a sharp drop in the Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city index of home prices, had oil traders again betting that demand for energy will fall.

Wall Street, however, took a more positive approach to the day's events.

Dave Rovelli, managing director of trading at brokerage Canaccord Adams in New York, said Wall Street was pleased by the U.S. Steel numbers because the results could signal that the overall economy isn't as weak as some investors believed. Demand for raw materials like steel is seen as an early indicator of economic activity.

U.S. Steel, the largest U.S.based steel producer, said its fourth-quarter earnings jumped as an acquisition boosted results. The stock rose \$2.03, or 6.9 percent, to \$31.49.

American Express rose \$1.48 or 9.7 percent, to \$16.68 after reporting its profits fell 79 percent in the final three months of 2008. The numbers weren't as weak as some investors had feared.

Texas Instruments said its earnings fell 86 percent and that it would slash 3,400 jobs as the maker of chips for cell phones and other products tries to cut costs.

US Steel reports surge in 40 profit

By DANIEL LOVERING, **AP Manufacturing Writer**

PITTSBURGH - United States Steel Corp.'s fourthquarter earnings soared as strong pipe sales and an gain acquisition-related boosted results, but the steel maker forecast an operating loss in the current quarter due to the global economic slowdown.

U.S. Steel's earnings came amid an industrywide slump in demand for the metal among key buyers in the automotive, construction and industrial equipment sectors.

Steel prices, which reached all-time highs in the first half of 2008, plunged later in the year, and production at domestic steel mills dropped to levels not seen in a quarter century.

Pittsburgh-based company — the largest U.S.based steel producer — said Tuesday its net income jumped to \$308 million, or \$2.65 per share, from \$35 million, or 29 cents per share, a year ago. The earlier quarter included charges totaling \$117 million, or 98 cents per share.

Quarterly sales rose to \$4.57 billion from \$4.54 billion last year, helped by strong sales from U.S. Steel's tubular steel business.

The latest quarterly results included a gain of \$76 million, or 65 cents per share, related



This is part of United States Steel Corp's. Edgar Thomson Works in Braddock, Pa., Monday, Nov. 17, 2008. Pittsburgh-based United States Steel Corp.'s fourth-quarter earnings soared as strong pipe sales and an acquisition-related gain boosted results, but the steel maker forecast an operating loss in the current quarter due to the global economic slowdown.

to U.S. Steel's acquisition of a portion of a partnership called Clairton 1314B. U.S. Steel sells coke, a steel making material, and byproducts through Clairton 1314B.

Excluding the gain, U.S. Steel said it would have earned \$2 per share in the quarter.

Analysts, on average, estimated U.S. Steel would earn 71 cents per share on revenue of \$4.27 billion, according to a survey by Thomson Reuters. The earnings estimates typically exclude one-time items.

Shares of U.S. Steel rose \$2.03, or 6.9 percent, to end at \$31.49.

For the full year, U.S. Steel's profit more than doubled, jumping to \$2.13 billion, or

(AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar) \$18.11 per share, from \$879 million, or \$7.40 per share, in

In October, U.S. Steel posted record third-quarter results, helped by surging prices, but warned that fourth-quarter results would decline amid slowing demand from North America and Europe.

Later in the year, U.S. Steel announced it was laying off 675 workers in North America and idling three plants temporarily, affecting about 3,500 workers.

During the quarter, U.S. Steel's share price sank 48 percent, hitting its lowest point in five years in November. In 2008, U.S. Steel shares shed 67 percent of their value.

HEALTH A13
Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Fish and ocean plants prefer a natural environment over a man-made or synthetic one. Scientist can produce artificial seawater in a laboratory that is chemically exactly like nature. However, saltwater fish and plants die in artificial seawater. Obviously, there is an energetic component to the water in our oceans that scientists have not

been able to identify. Many synthetic compounds have been shown to have negative side effects. For example: synthetic bile given to liver patients has been found to kill human eye cells. Mortality from cancer and other diseases among synthetic rubber workers is higher than natural rubber workers. In clinical trials, people who had quit smoking were given beta carotene, a vitamin thought to improve lung function. The participants used an artificial form of the vitamin and developed more lung cancer. The list is long.

Chemists may be able to duplicate the formula of a compound found in nature, but what they do not know nor recognize is that the chemical formula is not a complete description of a substance. Beyond chemistry and beyond the measuring ability of laboratory apparatus is an energy field behind every substance. This subtle energy field depends, not only on the chemical formula, but also on the origin and history of the substance. A clinical nutritionist understands this with body chemistry.

Patients who believe they have a "healthy lifestyle" come to our clinic daily looking for answers to why they suffer from poor health. As a nutritionist I always begin with modification or recommendations of diet and supplements. It is disturbing when I find that many people have switched from processed

Real Quality

By: Dr Carlos Viana white wheat products to whole fillers and artificial ingredients. wheat to improve their health. This step towards "more natural" is not necessarily healthier. Wheat contains gluten which is well documented as an allergen contributing to a whole host of health problems. And to make matters worse, not only are people eating incorrectly for their metabolic types, they believe that taking any 'Daily Multi-Vitamin' is "insurance" that they are getting all the "recommended" daily nutrients to stay healthy.

People are now spending supplements. billions on Strangely, the rates of some chronic disease have not changed, while others have increased. There are a number of reasons for these poor statistics. One thing seems clear, however. Most supplements aren't helping much.

Because much of the food we eat is nutrient-deficient, we are depleting our bodies of essential nutrition and inviting illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease into our lives. The solution is to eat whole foods, closest to their natural form as possible. For example, raw has more nutrients than cooked, local, fresher foods retain nutrients. However, more even our best effort these days isn't supplying all the nutrients to keep our bodies running efficiently. We need to supplement our diet with extra vitamins, minerals, amino acids, enzymes, fatty acids, and herbal nutrients everyday

Supplements, however are not all created equally. Some are not sufficient to give us what we need, and others may be doing more harm than good. Cheaper to make and easy to mass market, poor quality vitamins and minerals made with Synthetic vitamins, hormones and man-made medicines may take more energy away from the body than they give back. So, what should we use? Quality, natural supplement manufacturers extract concentrated vitamins and minerals from the most organic sources possible. Care is taken in not using extreme heat, pressure, or a toxic solvent is essential. The goal is maximum retention of the natural substance.

artificial Nο colors sweeteners. preservatives, sugars, salt or harsh starchy binders and fillers that can hinder absorption should be Additionally good added. manufactures know that some other common ingredients are known to cause negative reactions in many people; therefore their products are free of wheat, yeast, soy and dairy products. This information should be printed on the label. If it's not, you can assume your vitamins are not natural or without additives. A clinical nutritionist understands this with body chemistry.

A natural source of nutrients contains the subtle energy field and the co-factors that are paired with that substance in nature. For instance, co-factors that are usually found with Vitamin C are bioflavonoids. Another example, in nature, beta-carotene is part of a family of carotenoids. It is never found alone. For example, carrots and tomatoes have alpha-carotene, beta-carotene, gamma-carotene, etc. And although betacarotene is a great antioxidant, cantozantheen is known to be even more effective. By isolating beta-carotene from its entire family of carotenoids

the experts have taken away a beneficial antioxidant. Natural multi- nutrients have all the carotenoids.

As a board certified clinical nutritionist, I believe in eating the most organic, natural foods for your blood type possible. I only use and recommend natural products that have been verified by scientific evidence as consistently reliable and of the highest quality. There is a difference; these products are proven to deliver as stated on the label every time, based on clinical research. Learn to read labels. The word "natural" is not regulated; educate yourself and your family on the ingredients in food and vitamins. Synthetic compounds are significantly different than their natural counterparts, even when they have the same chemical formulas. I make supplement choices based upon the quality of the product.

Get The Point! Don't go the way of saltwater fish and plants placed in artificial seawater. allowing avoidable Stop toxins from processed foods, chlorinated and fluoridated water, synthetic supplements, pharmaceutical medicines, chemical beauty and personal care products, insecticides, cleaning supplies and metal dental fillings, into your body! Fresh, organic foods and personal products can be a bit more expensive, but worth their price in health. Drink plenty of pure water with minerals found in nature, not toxic fluoride additives. Moderate sunshine, exercise and fresh air help to complete your program. Everyone has tremendous power to prevent disease. Call for an appointment in helathy lifestyle counseling. We can teach you choices which can improve your quality of life.

Dr. Viana: Back by popular demand to repeat his seminar

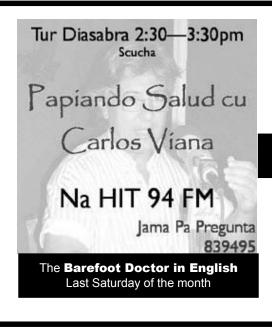


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CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively.

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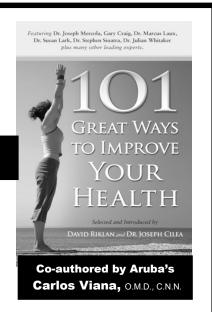
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Partisanship Isn't a Dirty Word

The Nation -- Republicans, having driven the economy into a ditch during the last eight years, are now opposing the one piece of legislation--an economic stimulus--that might turn things around. House Republican leaders are telling their rank-and-file to vote against the \$825 billion plan, even before they meet with Barack Obama, yet again, this afternoon.

Bob Herbert of the New York Times raises a good point in his column today:

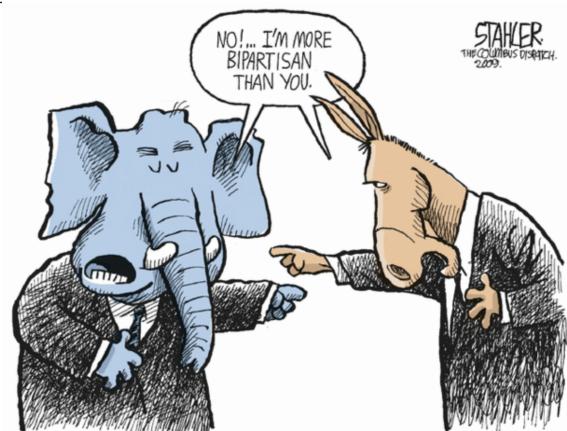
The question that I would like answered is why anyone listens to this crowd anymore. GOP policies have been an absolute backbreaker for the middle class. (Forget the poor. Nobody talks about them anymore, not even the Democrats.) The G.O.P. has successfully engineered a wholesale redistribution of wealth to those already at the top of the income ladder and then, in a remarkable display of chutzpah, dared anyone to talk about class warfare.

Herbert didn't mention that these days, crony capitalist policies have even bankrupted the wealthy. Yet Obama rode into Washington promising to listen to the other side and usher in a new era of "post-partisanship" in Washington, whatever that means. His allies declared that they wanted 80 yes votes on the stimulus bill, loading up the legislation with tax cuts to attract wavering Republicans.

Turns out such a projection, not surprisingly, wasn't entirely realistic. The Republican Party that exists today on Capitol Hill is much smaller, more conservative and more Southern than it was two, four or eight years ago. It's going to be very difficult for Obama to rationally negotiate with many of them. Obama himself seems to have reluctantly realized that, telling a gathering of House Republicans, "You can't just listen to Rush Limbaugh and get things done."

When the number two Republican in the House, Rep. Eric Cantor, complained of a provision in the stimulus bill that would help low-income workers (god forbid), Obama responded: "You're correct, there's a philosophical difference, but I won, so we're going to prevail on that."

Quite right. Elections have consequences and the public put Democrats squarely in control of Washington for the first time since 1992. It's smart politics for Obama to listen to Republicans but bad policy to let them dictate his legislative agenda. Eighty votes is all well and good as a theoretical utopia, but a bare majority in the House and 60 votes in the Senate (it used to be 51, before the GOP filibustered every bill they didn't like) is all he needs.



The stimulus America needs: trust

By Alan Siegel

New York – In an effort to rebuild decades worth of lost trust, President Obama has called for transparency and openness in government. And a good thing too, as the intensity of consumer distrust is at the highest I've seen it in the past 30 years. A survey of 1,200 adults we conducted this month reveals that trust in banks, mortgage lenders, and brokers has plunged nearly 40 percent in one year. Moreover, 63 percent of those surveyed feel that these businesses flagrantly make things more complicated in order to hide real risks. So how can businesses rebuild trust amid today's global economy, deceptive propositions, double talk, and disclaimers?

They need to incorporate clarity and simplicity into their programs and communications. Corporations need to do more than improve governance and raise capital. They have to speak plainly to their constituencies. It is time to come out from behind unintelligible language.

Consider how one bank explained its "Simplicity card": "All your APRs may automatically increase up to the Default APR if you default under any Card Agreement that you have with us because you fail to make a payment to us when due…"

With effort, you might have gotten the gist behind the happy sounding card and the thick language: Make a late payment on any card at the bank, and the bank will slam you with increased interest rates.

Can this kind of behavior possibly foster trust? Government is just as guilty. Every spring, Americans are forced to face the challenge of filing taxes – an odious and emotionally charged ordeal that only alienates citizens and further weakens the bonds of civic trust.

In the poll I cited, Americans say that they are primed to demand simpler, more open practices and communications. The problem is, individual Americans have never stepped up to the plate.

Think of the times all of us just go ahead and pay phone bills we can't decipher, suffer higher credit card fees for reasons we don't understand, or stash puzzling healthcare bills in the drawer – unread. Giving up because we can't understand something only encourages companies to

underserve and deceive us.

Why tolerate overly complex, confusing propositions at all? Why do we allow organizations to bury basic terms of their business in technical jargon?

Years ago, I wrestled with lawyers to transform pages of caveats and codicils into a simple loan note. In the end, my team distilled 250 tangled words to this one sentence: "If you don't pay on time, you will be in default, and we will take legal action against you." This is how trust is built, not by hiding behind legalese.

There are a few companies who do retain loyal customers with fair and open treatment. One online bank's "privacy policy" is not pages of thick wording. Instead, it states plainly, "We will not give or sell your private information to anyone." This is clear – and blessedly in tune with consumer wishes.

Steve Jobs, cofounder of Apple, has used simplicity as a competitive weapon, turning his company into a citadel of simple, engaging design. Warren Buffett, the world's most successful investor, explains his company's strategy in ordinary words in an annual report that thousands read for wisdom and pleasure.

I have worked with major corporations, government agencies, and not-for-profits to simplify every conceivable type of contract and document. There are wonderful models of communications that prove simplicity is possible – and research confirms the enormous benefits for companies and consumers. We just need to follow these models.

Today's crisis may hold this silver lining: It may be the catalyst for a broad demand for transparent services and simple, understandable communications. Eighty-five percent of us, according to our recent poll, are more likely to do business with companies that communicate in plain English.

So let's make it happen. Refuse to do business with any organization that violates your need to know and understand – and support measures that simplify practices across all agencies and all industries. If we the people show resolve, then an era of simpler services can be launched.



ADVERTISEMENT A15 Wednesday, January 28, 2009

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Aruba TODAY

The hottest place to be cool is Bugaloe!



PALM BEACH - There is only one Bugaloe on Aruba: it is the hottest place to be cool and the coolest place to be hot. Friends and fun are the main ingredients at the beach bar, but great food, drinks and music get a good second place. The sunsets, the breeze and the turquoise ocean are right at the top as well, of course. Bugaloe is located on De Palm Pier on the beach between the RIU Palace and the Radisson Resort at the Hi-Rise strip: an easy walk from all the major hotels.

People from all over the world get together at Bugaloe: they have a few drinks, a bite to eat, they dance and sway and make new friends. If you have gotten curious here and now, check out the website www.bugaloe. Ahottip: Bugaloe Beach Bar com and you will see at one glace what we are talking about. No words will be needed anymore. Surf to the website for the Bugaloe Event Calendar or leave a note in the Guestbook.

Bugaloe's daily Happy Hours are considered the starting signal for an evening of partying on the island. Locals mingle with visitors and raise their glasses. When you get hungry, order a scrumptious burger, a gourmet pizza, tasty wings or a salad and party on. The night is young, the world is going crazy and you are right in the middle of a super happening. What's not to like? A twice-a-month live breakfast radio show on Friday mornings with a spectacular breakfast buffet will keep you entertained as well.

puts on live bands on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Lotus (YouTube keywords: lotus, bugaloe) and Marisela & Aquarius (YouTube keywords: marisela, confidential, 2008) are playing the stars from the sky. These bands are drawing the crowds, so be there or be square! On those nights the young as well as the youngat-heart are having the time of their lives. Photos of Bugaloe's happy times can be viewed at www.bugaloe. com. Don't forget to put your own movie of you and your friends having a whale of a time at Bugaloe on the web and enjoy being famous, crazy and hilarious. So upload, upload! We are looking forward to seeing you on YouTube or live in action.





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umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge.

The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers up a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses-including fresh buffalomozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more. The salad bar is included

in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the nonmeat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking

to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their worldparmesan cheese famous bread as part of the meal \Box

For more information or to make reservations, please call 586-4686









BON DIA FOIDAY

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Wednesday, January 28, 2009



Ice forms on a street sign on Winter Hawk Road in Boyle County near Danville, Ky., on Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2008. Gov. Steve Beshear has declared a statewide emergency as a powerful winter storm barreled through the state.

Associated Press See Page B5

Obama open to compromise on \$825B

By LIZ SIDOTI and DAVID ESPO

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON – On the eve of a key vote, President Barack Obama privately promised Republicans he stands ready to accept changes in the \$825 billion economic stimulus legislation, invoked Ronald Reagan to rebut conservative critics and urged lawmakers to "put politics aside" in the interest of creating jobs.

"The American people expect action," Obama said Tuesday as he shuttled between closeddoor meetings with House and Senate Republicans on a trip to the Capitol that blended with political substance symbolism. Republicans who attended the sessions said the president did not agree to any specific changes but did pledge to have his aides consider some that GOP lawmakers raised dealing with additional tax relief for businesses.

Prodded to budge on another point, Obama said that despite opposition, he will insist on giving relief to wage-earners who pay Social Security taxes but do not earn enough to owe income tax. His spokesman said



Snow is seen on the south grounds of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2009, as President Barack Obama walks back to the Oval Office after a trip to Capitol Hill to meet with House and Senate Republicans.

the president reminded his critics that former President Reagan — conservative hero to many contemporary Republicans — supported the same concept while in the White House.

In a measure of the complex political dynamic in Congress, House Republican leaders urged their rank and file to oppose the stimulus measure hours before Obama arrived.

One Republican later quoted the president as saying any changes would have to come after the House gives what is expected to be largely party-line approval

Associated Press
Wednesday to the Democraticbacked bill. Debate began late
in the day on the measure,
which includes about \$550
billion in spending and roughly
\$275 billion in tax cuts.

The Senate shows signs of greater bipartisanship, including a decision in the Finance Committee on Tuesday to add a new tax break for upper middle-income taxpayers, at a one-year cost of \$70 billion. It was advanced by Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, the panel's senior Republican.

Continued on Next Page

Bill Clinton made millions from foreign sources



Former President Bill Clinton speaks to the National Automobile Dealers Association during their meeting in New Orleans Monday, Jan. 26, 2009.

Associated Press

By MATTHEW LEE Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - Former President Bill Clinton earned nearly \$6 million in speaking fees last year, almost all of it from foreign companies, according to financial documents filed by his wife, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The documents obtained Tuesday by The Associated

Press show that \$4.6 million of the former president's reported \$5.7 million in 2008 honoraria came from foreign sources, including Kuwait's national bank, other firms and groups in Canada, Germany, India, Malaysia, Mexico and Portugal and a Hong Kong-based company that spent \$100,000 on federal lobbying last year.

Continued on Page B4



Israeli soldiers walk near Israel's border with the Gaza Strip, in southern Israel, Tuesday Jan. 27, 2009. Palestinian militants detonated a bomb next to an Israeli army patrol along the border with Gaza Tuesday, killing one soldier and wounding three others in the first serious clash since a cease-fire went into effect more than a week ago.

Associated Press

Hamas bombing, Israeli airstrike shake Gaza truce

By JOSEF FEDERMAN

Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) - A Palestinian roadside bomb killed an Israeli soldier patrolling the border with Gaza on Tuesday, and Israel responded with an airstrike that wounded a Hamas militant in a flare-up of violence that undermined a cease-fire on the eve of a visit by the new U.S. Mideast envoy.

Continued on Page B7

Wednesday, January 28, 2009 U.S. NEWS





Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky., center, accompanied by, from left, Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., and Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2009, after having lunch with President Barack Obama.

COMPROMISE Continued from Page B1

Democratic leaders in both houses have promised to have legislation ready for Obama's signature by mid-February, and Tuesday's developments coincided with fresh evidence of deterioration in a national economy seemingly growing weaker by the day.

Housing prices tumbled by the sharpest annual rate on record in November, according

Associated Press

to a closely watched private report released during the day, and a measure of consumer confidence dropped to a historic

Separately, the Treasury Department announced distribution of \$386 million to 23 troubled banks, the first awards from the federal bailout fund since Obama took office a week ago.

Obama traveled to and from the Capitol in a snowy motorcade

on Tuesday, far different from the inaugural parade seven days earlier. This was a business trip, marking his second reach across party lines in as many days in keeping with a pledge to seek bipartisan solutions to major problems.

On Monday, he leaned on House Democrats to jettison an item that would make it easier for states to provide family planning funds for the poor under Medicaid, a provision in the legislation that had become a target of ridicule for Republicans. Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said Obama supports the concept but wants it included in a different bill.

Ironically, Democrats said deleting the provision would wind up increasing federal spending, since it probably would mean more money spent on higher pregnancy and postnatal care.

House Republican leaders welcomed the president a few hours after urging their rankand-file to oppose the stimulus bill, and it was far from clear that Obama had managed to pick up any GOP support during the day.

Gibbs said the White House pursuing a strategy of criticizing expects some GOP lawmakers will vote for the measure on Wednesday in the House, and indicated he hopes there will be more in the Senate and even more later when a final compromise is reached.

One Republican senator, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the president pledged to Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., to have aides review two specific proposals. One would affect businesses that pay down their debt. The other would provide a temporary tax holiday for companies that have money overseas and bring it back to the United States to invest.

Obama ventured into an uncertain political environment when he stepped into the Capitol, a president with high approval ratings pitching a plan that also has been favorably received in the polls.

Republicans, on the other hand, are trying to regroup after last fall's elections, in which they lost the White House as well as seats in both houses of Congress While some conservatives seem eager to mount a frontal attack on Obama and his plans, others are

congressional Democrats rather than the president.

Hours earlier, according to officials who were present at a GOP meeting, none of the Republicans in attendance spoke up in disagreement when urged to oppose the legislation by their leaders. Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, the party's leader, and Eric Cantor of Virginia, the second in command, said they wanted "100 percent" opposition to the measure, which they argue includes billions in wasteful spending, these officials said.

Across the Capitol, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell suggested that Democrats in Congress were the problem, not the president. "We think the country needs a stimulus," McConnell said on NBC's "Today" show. But he also said that he believes most people do not believe recovery can be accomplished through projects like "fixing up the Mall," a reference to funding to repair the National Mall in Washington.

He said Republicans want a bill that devotes 40 percent of its total to tax cuts.





Gates says more troops for Afghanistan by summer

By ANNE FLAHERTY Associated Press Writer

nation

WASHINGTON (AP) - Amid preparations for a major U.S. troop build up in Afghanistan, Defense Secretary Robert Gates warned Tuesday that the United States cannot become bogged down in the unrealistic goal of turning the country into an economically prosperous

Instead, the U.S. must limit its focus to what it can achieve within five years, he said. The focus should be trying to ensure terrorists don't regain control of the region and use it to coordinate attacks, Gates told the House and Senate armed services committees.

He also indicated that military strikes against terrorist targets in Pakistan are likely to continue, despite Islamabad's view that they are unhelpful.

"If we set ourselves the objective of creating some sort of Central Asian Valhallah over there, we will lose because nobody in the world has that kind of time, patience or money to be honest," said Gates, referring to the mythic haven of purity.

Gates testified as President Barack Obama considers options for drawing down operations in Iraq and doubling the force size in Afghanistan. Obama planned to meet Wednesday with the service chiefs

Gates told lawmakers that the Pentagon could send two more brigades to Afghanistan by late spring and a third by mid-summer in an effort to try to salvage a country besieged by corruption and increasing violence.

More troops could be sent after that but a decision would hinge on the Defense Department's ability to build a larger infrastructure, he added. Gates cautioned against sending too many forces because he said it could send the wrong message and Afghan citizens must see their own security forces take control. When asked by Sen. Lindsey Graham, a Republican and a frequent visitor to the region, whether he expects casualties to rise with the uptick in military operations, Gates responded that it was "likely."

"Bottom line is this is going to be tough," Graham said. "This is going to be difficult and in many ways harder than Iraq. Do you agree with that?"

"Yes," Gates responded.

Gates indicated that going after terrorists in Pakistan, which shares a border with Afghanistan, would remain part of the equation to improving security in the region.

"Let me just say both President Bush and President Obama have made clear that we will go after al-Qaida wherever al-Qaida is and we will continue to pursue them." Gates said.

On Guantanamo Bay, Gates played down suggestions that Obama's order to close the military prison within one year would risk the release of terrorists. He said Congress must remember that the vast majority of detainees can be tried by the United State or sent to other countries for prosecution.

There are a relatively small number of detainees that will be difficult to prosecute, and the administration will have to address that problem, he said.



Defense Secretary Robert Gates testifies about strains on the Pentagon's budget as President Barack Obama plans to shift military resources away from Iraq and toward Afghanistan, during an a appearance before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2009. Gates, the only Cabinet holdover from the Bush Administration, is recuperating from surgery to his left arm which he injured during Christmas handling snow equipment.

Associated Press

"I can't imagine a situation in which detainees in Guantanamo considered a danger to the people of the United States would simply be released," he told the House Armed Services Committee.

Further, Gates said, the deadline was necessary because

otherwise "we would kick that can down the road endlessly." His remarks undercut efforts by some Republicans to cast Obama's decision as misstep in the war on terror.

On Iraq, the defense chief said the Pentagon is preparing for Obama various scenarios for winding down the war, including a plan that would cease U.S. involvement in combat within 16 months. Gates said military planners are looking at later dates as well and are prepared to brief Obama on all his options and the their associated risks.

"I believe the president will

have had every opportunity to hear quite directly from his commanders about what they can accomplish and what the attendant risks are under different options," Gates said. Gates said he does not expect the military buildup in Afghanistan to put an additional strain on troops. By the end of September, soldiers deployed for 12 months should be allowed 15 months at home. In the 2010 budget year, that ratio will stretch further, giving troops two years at home for every one year deployed. By 2011, they should see 30 months at home, he said.

Obama took office and lawmakers were eager to hear details about how the administration plans to turn around the war in Afghanistan. "This is a long, hard slog we're in in Afghanistan," said Sen. John McCain, borrowing the phrase used frequently by former Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld to describe the war in Iraq.

It was his first hearing since

Prize-winning writer John Updike dies

By HILLEL ITALIE

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - John Updike, the Pulitzer Prizewinning novelist, prolific man of letters and erudite chronicler of sex, divorce and other adventures in the postwar prime of the American empire, died Tuesday at age 76.

Updike died of lung cancer in a hospice near his home in Beverly Farms, Massachussets, according to a statement from his publisher, Alfred A. Knopf. A literary writer who frequently appeared on best-seller lists, the tall, hawk-nosed Updike wrote novels, short stories, poems, criticism, the memoir "Self-Consciousness" and even a famous essay about baseball great Ted Williams. He was prolific, even compulsive, releasing more than 50 books in a career that started in the 1950s. Updike won virtually every American literary prize, including two Pulitzers, for "Rabbit Is Rich" and "Rabbit at Rest," and two National Book Awards.

His settings ranged from the court of "Hamlet" to postcolonial Africa, but his literary home was the American suburbs. Born in 1932,



In this May 20, 2006 file photo, author John Updike takes part in a panel discussion at BookExpo America 2006 in Washington.

Associated Press

Updike spoke for millions of Depression-era readers raised by "penny-pinching parents," united by "the patriotic cohesion of World War II" and blessed by a "disproportionate share of the world's resources," and America's postwar, suburban boom of "idealistic careers and early marriages."

He captured, and sometimes embodied, a generation's confusion over the civil rights and women's movements, and opposition to the Vietnam War. Updike was called a misogynist, a racist and an apologist for the establishment. On purely literary grounds, he was attacked by Norman Mailer as the kind of author appreciated by readers who knew nothing about writing.

But more often he was praised for his flowing, poetic writing style. Describing a man's interrupted quest to make love, Updike likened it "to a small angel to which all afternoon tiny lead weights are attached." Nothing was too great or too small for Updike to poeticize.

He might rhapsodize over the film projector's "chuckling whir" or look to the stars and observe that "the universe is perfectly transparent: we exist as flaws in ancient glass."

Author Joyce Carol Oates, a friend of Updike's, said there was a "lumonisity in John's style that was just extraordinary. He also had a wonderful, warm, sympathetic sense of humor which people didn't always notice."

In the richest detail, his books recorded the extremes of earthly desire and spiritual zealotry, whether the comic philandering of the preacher in "A Month of Sundays" or the steady rage of the young Muslim in "Terrorist." Raised in the Protestant community of Shillington, Pennsylvania, where the Lord's Prayer was recited daily at school, Updike was a lifelong churchgoer influenced by his faith, but not immune to doubts.

"I remember the times when I was wrestling with these issues that I would feel crushed. I was crushed by the purely materialistic, atheistic account of the universe," Updike told The Associated Press during a 2006 interview.



Former President Bill Clinton, second right, talks with Nigerian Vice President Goodluck Jonathan, center, This Day newspaper chairman Nduka Obaigbena, left and former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, right, at an awards ceremony for Nigerian leaders in good governance and enterprise held in Abuja, Nigeria Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009.

Associated Press

CLINTON Continued from Page B1

Executives at many of the firms that paid honoraria to Bill Clinton have also donated large amounts of money to the Clinton Foundation, according to documents it released last year as part of an agreement with Congress on Hillary Clinton's nomination as secretary of state

All senior officials in the Obama administration are required to complete a detailed disclosure of their personal finances, including spouse and children, which is updated yearly.

foreign source was \$1.25 million for appearing at five events sponsored by the Toronto-based Power Within Inc., a company that puts on motivational and training programs around North America.

For one Power Within speech alone, delivered in Edmonton in June 2008, Clinton was paid \$525,000, the most for any single event that year. For one event, he got \$200,000 and for three others he received \$175,000 each, the documents show.

The Hong Kong firm, Hybrid Kinetic Automotive Holdings, The most Bill Clinton got from a paid Clinton a \$300,000 honorarium on Dec. 4, 2008. Twenty five days later, on Dec. 29, a man listed as the company's chief financial officer, Jack Xi Deng, made a \$25,000 cash donation to Virginia gubernatorial campaign of Clinton confidant Terry McAuliffe, according to the Virginia Public Access Project.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, the Hong Kong firm paid at least \$100,000 in 2008 to lobbyists on immigration issues.

The other foreign honoraria Bill Clinton received in 2008 are:

\$450,000 from AWD Holding AG, a German-based international financial services company.

_ \$350,000 from the stateowned National Bank of Kuwait. Kuwaiti government donated between \$1 million and \$5 million to the Clinton Foundation, according to the foundation's disclosure.

\$325,000 from the Lisbon, Portugal company Cunha Vaz and Associados, an international communications consulting and lobbying firm.

Value \$300,000 from Grupo Financiero SA de CV, Mexico-based financial holding company, whose chief executive officer, Carlos Bremer Gutierrez, is one of the Clinton Foundation's leading Gutierrez donated donors. between \$250,001 to \$500,000 to the foundation, according to foundation's documents.

\$250,000 from the Mexican branch of the Friends of ZAKA. ZAKA is an Israeli-based relief agency that operates around the world, delivering humanitarian assistance to the victims of terrorism and natural disasters.

\$250,000 from Mexico's Consejo Nacional Empresarial Turistico, an association of Mexican travel and tour companoies.

\$250,00 from Germany's Media Control Gmbh, which bills itself as the world's leading provider of entertainment data and was founded by Karlheinz Koegel, who contributed \$100,001 to \$250,000 to the Clinton foundation.

\$200,000 from Germany's Schwartzkopff TV Productions, a unit of the giant German media conglomerate Axel Springer AG

\$200,000 from Malaysia's Petra Equities Management on behalf of the Sekhar Foundation run by Malaysian multimillionaire Vinod Sekhar who donated between \$25,001 and \$50,000 to the Clinton Foundation, according to its documents.

\$175,000 from Green Living Enterprises, a Toronto-based consulting, publishing and event management firm that specializes in environmentally friendly projects.

\$175,000 from the Economic Club of Toronto, a non-profit, non-partisan group that brings current and former world leaders to speak to its members.

\$150,000 from the India Today Group, a New Delhibased multimedia company that publishes newspapers and magazines and owns television and radio stations throughout the country.

In addition to the foreign earnings, Bill Clinton made just over \$1 million from domestic engagements, speaking \$250,000 including from MSG Entertainment, \$225,000 from the National Association of Home Care and Hospice, \$200,000 from the United Nations Association, \$175,000 from the ING North America Insurance Corp., \$125,000 from the Rodman and Renshaw Capital Group and \$100,000 from the Hollywood Radio and Television Society.

Voters ask court to add absentees to Minn. recount

By PATRICK CONDON **Associated Press**

AP - Gerald Anderson, left, testifies about his ballot that was rejected as he appeared before the Senate ...

Slideshow: Minn. Senate Race Play Video Congress Video: Miami Beach Dem. Dan Gelber Runs For U.S. Senate CBS4 Miami Play Video Congress Video: Senators React To Hearing Blagojevich Wiretaps CBS 2 Chicago ST. PAUL, Minn. - Minnesota voters testified Tuesday their ballots had been unfairly rejected as Republican Norm Coleman argued thousands of disqualified absentee ballots should be counted in the U.S. Senate race.

"Perhaps my signature is not as good as it once was," Gerald Anderson, of St. Paul, told the three-judge panel hearing Coleman's lawsuit. "It gets cloudy and crooked. I am 75 years old."But that shouldn't have disqualified his vote, he said: "I want it back. I'm entitled to my vote."





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U.S. REGIONAL B5
Wednesday, January 28, 2009



housands blacked out as ice storm wreaks havoc

By DANIEL SHEA **Associated Press Writer**

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - Tree limbs snapped with a sound like gunshots, blacking out thousands of homes and businesses, and schools and government offices were closed Tuesday as a major storm spread a glaze of ice and snow from the southern Plains to the East Coast.

At least nine deaths had been blamed on the weather.

Highway crews fought to keep up with slippery roads and in some places were blocked by fallen tree limbs and power lines. Ice had built up 3 inches thick in sections of Arkansas and Oklahoma.

The National Weather Service posted ice storm and winter storm warnings Tuesday along a broad swath from Texas and Oklahoma through the Mississippi and Ohio valleys all the way into northern New England. Radar showed smears of snow and freezing rain stretching from Texas to Virginia during the afternoon. Broken tree limbs weighted down by ice crashed onto power lines, cutting service to at least 85,000 homes

and businesses in hard-hit Arkansas, utilities said.

"I think we are about to go over the cliff," said Mel Coleman, CEO of the North Arkansas Electric Cooperative in Salem.

Arkansas utilities warned customers that their power could be out for at least three days.

"We fully expect this to be one of the largest outages we've ever had," said Coleman. "Right now, we're just hoping it's days and not weeks."

Kentucky state officials reported more than 40,000 customers with no electricity as ice up to 1.5 inches thick broke tree limbs.

"You hear the popping — it sounded like gunfire — and it's limbs from trees breaking," said Hopkins County, Ky., Judge-Executive Donald Carroll, who was among those with no power. He said crews in his western Kentucky county were busy trying to clear broken branches from roads

"It's a serious situation," said Kentucky Transportation Secretary Joe Prather. "Our crews are working nonstop,

but the snow in many areas is falling faster than we can clear, so it will take time to make headway."

About 6,000 customers were blacked out in Oklahoma as temperatures sat in the teens and 20s.

Kentucky Steve Gov. Beshear declared a statewide emergency Tuesday; Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry did the same on Monday.

Hundreds of public schools, colleges and universities called off classes Tuesday in parts of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois and Maryland.

"Playing in the snow is pretty much the thing to do today," said student Sarah Bonham at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va.

Every county reported school closings in West Virginia, where snow on hilly roads snow changed to sleet and to rain in places.

"The roads are still a little bit slimy," said Paul Howard, director of operations for West Virginia's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. "The Division of Highways



A FedEx ATR-42 twin turboprop cargo plane sits off the runway at Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport Tuesday morning, Jan. 27, 2009. The landing FedEx cargo plane veered off the runway, crashed and caught fire, but that both crew members walked away from the plane.

Associated Press

is knocking their socks off trying to keep the roads sort of clear."

Arkansas state government offices opened two hours late because of the weather, all but essential state workers in Oklahoma were told to stav home, and West Virginia state offices shut down early.

And as the storm threatened to barrel into New England, the New Hampshire Legislature Wednesday's sessions. Up to 15 inches of snow was forecast Wednesday

Mammoth Cave National Park in south-central Kentucky was closed because broken tree limbs blocked roads, said Vickie Carson, the park's public information officer. "As soon as they get one area cleaned up, more trees fall," Carson said.

in New Hampshire.

Since the storm began building on Monday, the weather had been blamed for three deaths in Arkansas, three in Oklahoma, two in Missouri and one in Texas.





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Aruba—TODAY

Obama tells Arabic network US is 'not your enemy'



In an image made from a video provided by Al-Arabiya, President Barack Obama is interviewed in Washington by Dubai-based Al-Arabiya cable network Monday Jan. 26, 2009. It was the Obama's first formal television interview as president given to an Arabic cable TV network.

By PAUL SCHEMM
Associated Press Writer
CAIRO, Egypt (AP)

BOLT

Thursday: 8:00

Saturday: 8:00 & 10:30

VALKYRIE

President Barack Obama told Arab television viewers that "Americans are not your

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Friday: 8:00 & 10:30

Sunday: 8:00

Matinee: sat & sun | Late show: fri & sat

enemy" in an interview aimed at repairing relations with the Muslim world that were damaged under the Bush administration.

Obama's choice to give his first formal sit-down television interview as president to Al-Arabiya signaled a new American approach in the region. In the interview, broadcast Tuesday, Obama said the U.S. had made mistakes in the past but "that the same respect and partnership that America had with the Muslim world as recently as 20 or 30 years ago, there's no reason why we can't restore that."

The new president also condemned Iran's threats against Israel, pursuit of nuclear weapons and support of terrorist organizations, but said "it is important for us to be willing to talk to Iran, to express very clearly where our differences are, but where there are potential avenues for progress."

Obama's predecessor, former President George W. Bush, launched wars in Iraq and Afghanistan that prompted a massive backlash against the United States in the Muslim world. During his eight years in office, relations between the U.S. and Iran also grew increasingly tense _ with the Bush administration often singling out Iran as the most dangerous in the region.

The interview on the Dubai-based Al-Arabiya 24-hour news channel aired as Obama's new envoy to the region, former Sen. George J. Mitchell, began the administration's first Mideast peace mission. Mitchell arrived in Egypt on Tuesday for a visit that will also take him to Israel, the West Bank, Jordan, Turkey and Saudi Arabia.

In contrast to the enthusiastic reception Obama's victory has garnered around the world, the Arab world has been more cautious about the new U.S. president _ with most skeptical that American policy in the region will change substantially.

"I can't be optimistic until I see something tangible," said Hatem al-Kurdi, 35, a Gaza City engineer who saw parts of the interview. "Anyone can say nice words, but you have to follow with actions."

After earlier dismissing Obama as following the same policies as Bush, officials from the militant Palestinian Hamas group, which rule the Gaza Strip, softened their stance.

"In the last couple of days there have been a lot of statements (from Obama), some of them very positive, and choosing this George Mitchell as an envoy," said Ahmed Youssef, a senior Hamas official interviewed on the Qatar-based Al-Jazeera news network. "I think there are some positive things we have to count."

In the West Bank, Haytham Rafati was not as optimistic.

"I heard Obama, his tone is different, but I can't believe that any U.S. president can be different when it comes to the Arab-Israeli conflict," said Rafati, 30, who works in Ramallah. "I will believe Obama is different in his approach to the Islamic world only when I see him pulling out his forces from Iraq and pressing Israel on the Palestinian rights."

Obama's choice of Al-Arabiya, which is owned by a Saudi businessman, follows the lead of the Bush administration, which gave several presidential interviews to that news channel. "The U.S. sees Al-Arabiya as a friendly Arab channel, whereas they see Al-Jazeera as confrontational," said Lawrence Pintak, director of the journalism training center at the American

University in Cairo.

Al-Arabiya reaired clips of the interview repeatedly on Tuesday, and more than 200 people posted comments about the interview on its Web site.

Hady Amr, director of the Brookings Doha Center, an arm of the U.S. think-tank in the Qatari capital, described decision to make the first presidential interview with an Arabic news network as "stunning."

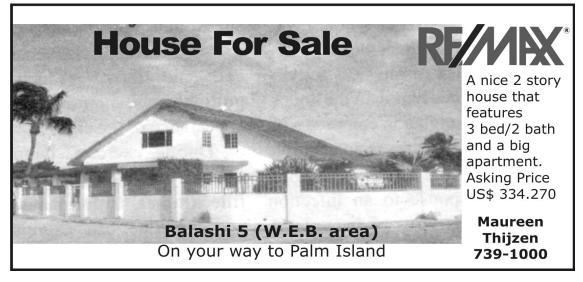
"President Obama has made it absolutely clear ... that a central priority will be repairing America's relations with the Muslim world," he said. "If that's his objective, I'd say he's been hitting home run after home run."

In the interview, Obama called for a new partnership with the Muslim world "based on mutual respect and mutual interest." He cited his Muslim background and relatives, practically a taboo issue back home during his U.S. presidential campaign.

Obama's Kenyan father was born Muslim, though a self-described atheist, and many of his relatives in Kenya are practicing Muslims. As a child, Obama lived for a number of years in Indonesia, the Muslim world's most populous country. This appeal does seem to have struck a chord among many Muslims.

"He's different from the previous presidents, perhaps because of his color or his Islamic background. My views of America are different now than they were during the Bush administration," said Youssef Ali, 45, who works for the Iraqi Electricity Ministry in Baghdad.

Most of Obama's interview focused on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which is widely perceived in the Mideast as the most pressing issue.



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GAZA TRUCE

Continued from Page B1

Israel briefly sent tanks and bulldozers across the border into Gaza after its soldier was killed and three others were wounded in the bombing. Hamas said the Israeli airstrike wounded one of its militants as he rode a motorcycle in the southern Gaza town of Khan Younis.

It was the worst bloodshed since the sides declared the cease-fire on Jan. 18 to end a three-week Israeli offensive. Since withdrawing its troops, Israel has threatened to retaliate hard for any violations of the informal truce.

"We will respond, but there is no point in elaborating," Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak said during a trip to a military base in southern Israel. Later, he convened an emergency meeting of top security officials. He spoke with Prime Minister Ehud Olmert after the meeting, but no details were released.

Olmert later hinted that a much tougher response could soon follow, telling a gathering of senior civil servants that Israel is not bound by any formal cease-fire with Hamas. "Israel's response has yet to come," he said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing, but Ramattan, a Palestinian news agency, later released a video of the roadside bombing allegedly filmed by militants it did not identify.

The video showed a large explosion next to a jeep moving on the Israeli side of the border fence. A huge plume of smoke emerges as the jeep stops. Two Israeli soldiers are then seen running toward the jeep, and gunfire is directed at them before a secondary blast hits them, too.

Mushir al-Masri, a Hamas lawmaker, said Israel was to blame for continuing to fire into Gaza. Al-Masri said his group had not agreed to a full cease-fire but only to a "lull"

in fighting. "The Zionists are responsible for any aggression," he said. After Tuesday's blast, heavy gunfire was heard along the border in central Gaza, and hovering Israeli helicopters fired machine gun bursts, Palestinian witnesses said. An Israeli jet set off a loud sonic boom over Gaza City not long afterward, possibly as a warning.

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Palestinian residents said Israeli tanks and bulldozers also entered the area where the roadside bombing took place and were tearing up some vacant land _ apparently to prevent it from being used to stage attacks.

Not long after the bombing, a 27-year-old Gaza farmer was killed by Israeli gunfire along the border several miles away, Palestinian medical officials said. The military had no comment, and it was unclear if the two incidents were related. The violence cast a shadow over the arrival of George Mitchell, President Barack Obama's special Mideast envoy. Mitchell arrived in Egypt on Tuesday and was set to visit Israel on Wednesday for three days of talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders on how to get stalled peace efforts back on track. Mitchell is expected to meet Olmert, top security officials, and the pro-Western Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas.

Mitchell has no plans to meet with Hamas, which the U.S., Israel and European Union consider a terrorist group. Hamas seized Gaza from forces loyal to Abbas in June 2007. Hamas' control of Gaza, and its refusal to recognize Israel's right to exist, are considered major obstacles to peace efforts.

The decision to appoint a presidential envoy and send him to the Middle East so early in the administration is a sign that Obama intends to take a more active approach to the region than did his predecessor. As the man who brokered Northern Ireland's Good Friday peace accord in 1998, Mitchell also

brings gravitas to the job and a proven record of resolving seemingly intractable disputes. In an interview Monday with the Arab satellite channel Al-Arabiya, Obama said he felt it important to "get engaged right away" in the Mideast. He said he directed Mitchell to talk to "all the major parties involved" and that his administration would craft an approach after that.







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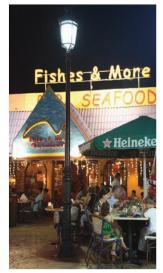
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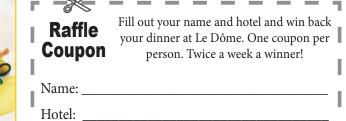


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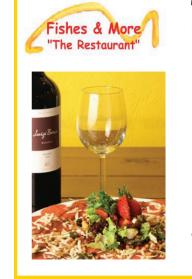
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Wednesday, January 28, 2009 SPORTS



Australian Open

Roddick advances after Djokovic quits Down Under



By PAUL ALEXANDER Associated Press Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) - Novak Djokovic's hopes for a second straight Australian Open title ended under a broiling sun Tuesday.

With ice packs and massages failing to provide relief, third-Djokovic ranked looked increasingly woozy and had to give up while trailing 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-2, 2-1, allowing No. 7 Andy Roddick to claim a spot in the semifinals.

The 26-year-old American will face second-ranked Roger Federer, who moved within two

victories of his record-tying 14th Grand Slam by routing No. 8 Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina 6-3, 6-0, 6-0. Federer, who owns a 15-2 advantage in previous matches with Roddick but lost their most recent meeting at Miami last April, ran off the last 13 games.

"Playing Andy is always nice," said Federer, 27. "We've had some big matches over the years and it's always a pleasure to play against him because he brings energy to the court with his serve and his character. It's nice to play somebody my age. Everyone's so young now."

and sore, and "didn't really have time to recover" from his previous match, which ended at 2:26 a.m. Monday.

"Conditions were extreme today. It did affect more on me than him, as you could see," Djokovic said. "But, you know, that was the situation. I just have to cope with it. Really tried my best, but sometimes you can't fight against your own body." Roddick, meanwhile, looked as fit as ever. After losing 15 pounds with a tough offseason workout regimen under new coach Larry Stefanki, he was quicker and his backhand stronger. The match left little doubt about the American's stamina on a day when temperatures hit. 95 F with not a cloud in the sky.

"It's rewarding to come out on a day like today, when it's pretty hot, and feel pretty good. That's what you do the work for," Roddick said.

Nothing worked for del Potro against Federer, who won 51 of the last 65 points and finished with 38 winners to a mere nine unforced errors.

Everything was working for

Djokovic said he was cramping Federer, and his mix of speeds for the first time in 25 majors. and spins was masterful. One service game in the first set summed it up - ace, backhand winner, forehand winner, volley winner, all in less than two minutes. As he served for the second set, a fan shouted: "You're perfect, Roger!"

> Not quite, but very, very good. "I thought it was going to be a tough match in the beginning," Federer said. "We had some tough rallies, and it really showed the direction of the match, I thought. I was very mistaken. I'm happy about that. "The longer the match went, the more he struggled and the better I got. The last couple games ... You want to almost put him out of his misery because you know how tough it is for him."

> Del Potro called it a bad day that showed he needs to improve to compete against the best.

> "I can't do nothing in the match," del Potro said. "He play like No. 1 of the world."

> In the first match of the day, Vera Zvonareva ran off 11 straight games to beat 2007 Wimbledon finalist Marion Bartoli of France 6-3, 6-0 to reach the semifinals

Seventh-ranked Zvonareva will meet fellow Russian Dinara Safina, who survived 11 doublefaults and 36 unforced errors to beat Australia's Jelena Dokic 6-4, 4-6, 6-4. It's the second straight Grand Slam semifinal for Safina - younger sister of 2005 men's champion Marat Safin - who lost to eventual champion Serena Williams at the U.S. Open.

Dokic's loss ended one of the tournament's most compelling stories: The former Wimbledon semifinalist was making her return to a Grand Slam after a three-year absence due to personal problems.

Safina apologized to the crowd for beating the local favorite, who advanced through a wildcard play tournament and was ranked No. 187.

"I hope that next time you'll be behind me," she said.

Dokic was happy with her performance.

"There's nothing to be disappointed about," Dokic said. "It's been a great start to 2009. I couldn't have asked for anything more."



NBA Roundup

Back-to-back Shaq gets 29; Suns top Wizards 103-87

WASHINGTON (AP) - Shaquille O'Neal had no problem with back-to-back games at the end of a road trip, scoring 29 points Monday as the Phoenix Suns downed the Washington Wizards 103-87

O'Neal went 10-for-14 from the field, 9-for-10 from the free throw line and had eight rebounds in 36 minutes for the Suns, who salvaged their six-game, East Coast road trip by winning the last two games to finish with three wins and three losses. O'Neal had 19 points and 11 rebounds in 39 minutes in Sunday's victory over Atlanta.

Amare Stoudemire added 22 points and 15 rebounds, and Steve Nash had 14 points and 15 assists for the Suns, whose 53-38 rebounding advantage helped overcome their 17 turnovers. Caron Butler scored 28 points, and Antawn Jamison had 27 for the Wizards, but they didn't

get much help as Washington lost for the 10th time in 12 games.

Heat 95, Hawks 79

At Miami, Dwyane Wade finished with 35 points and Miami held Atlanta without a field goal for nearly 13 1/2 minutes during one first-half stretch

Atlanta set a franchise-futility record with its 27-point first half. Still, the Hawks got within seven points early in the final quarter before a quick 11-3 burst fueled by Wade and Mario Chalmers sealed it for Miami.

Daequan Cook scored 16 points and Chalmers added 12 points and six assists for Miami (24-19), which moved a season-best five games over .500. Udonis Haslem had a game-high 13 rebounds.

Knicks 104, Rockets 98

At New York, Wilson Chandler responded to being taken out of the starting lineup with 18 points to lead New York to its first win over

Houston since 2004.

Chandler's 3-pointer with more than two minutes left gave the Knicks the lead for good at 97-96. The Knicks had lost eight straight to Houston.

Tracy McGrady led Houston with 20 points in his second game back from a left knee injury.

The Rockets were playing without center Yao Ming (sore right knee) for the second straight game.¤

Hornets 101, 76ers 86

At New Orleans, Chris Paul had 27 points, 15 assists, 10 rebounds and seven steals for his fifth triple-double of the season in New Orleans' win over Philadelphia.

Peja Stojakovic highlighted a 26-point performance with six 3-pointers for New Orleans, which was badly outscored inside but made up for it with 14 3s as a team.

Thaddeus Young had 22 points and Andre Miller 19 for the Sixers, who lost for only the second time in their past 10 games.

Timberwolves 90, Bucks 83

At Milwaukee, Al Jefferson had 23 points and 10 rebounds, and Ryan Gomes added 22 points to lift Minnesota over Milwaukee, which was playing without Michael Redd for the first time since he sustained a season-ending knee injury.

Randy Foye and rookie Kevin Love also each added 12 points for the Timberwolves.

Ramon Sessions had 18 points replacing Redd, Charlie Villanueva added 15 and Richard Jefferson 10 for Milwaukee.

In other NBA games Monday, it was: Miami 95, Atlanta 79; New York 104, Houston 98; Minnesota 90, Milwaukee 83; Oklahoma City 94, New Jersey 85; New Orleans 101, Philadelphia 86; and Portland 113, L.A. Clippers 88.

Pettitte, Yankees agree at \$5.5 million

By RONALD BLUM AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK – Andy Pettitte and the Yankees agreed Monday to a \$5.5 million, one-year contract that brings the left-hander back to New York.

Pettitte can make an additional \$6.5 million on performance bonuses and bonuses based on time on the active roster.

"There was never another team brought up," Pettitte said during a conference call. "I wanted to come back to the Yankees."

He joins a starting rotation that already includes CC Sabathia, A.J. Burnett, Chien-Ming Wang and Joba Chamberlain. The deal raised the Yankees' projected opening-day payroll to \$196.8 million for 17 players

with agreements.

Late last year, New York had offered a deal that would have guaranteed Pettitte \$10 million, down from the \$16 million he earned last year. New York withdrew that offer after it agreed to a \$180 million, eight-year deal with Mark Teixeira.

"If in fact Andy does in 2009 what he's done before, he'll actually make more money," said Pettitte's agent, Randy Hendricks.

Pettitte pitched for the Yankees from 1995-2003, helping them win four World Series titles, then spent three seasons with his hometown Houston Astros. He returned to the Yankees in 2007 and was 14-14 with a 4.54 ERA last season, his highest



Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte awaits a new ball after giving up a three-run home run to Los Angeles Angels' Juan Rivera during the third inning of a MLB baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Associated Press

ERA since 1999.

Pitching with a sore shoulder, he was 2-7 with a 6.23 ERA in his final 11 starts and missed his last turn of the season.

SPORTS B11 Wednesday, January 28, 2009



Phoenix Suns center Shaquille O'Neal, right, works beneath the basket as Washington Wizards center JaVale McGee guards during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Jan. 26, 2009, in Washington.

Associated Press

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week#2-17-OccidentaGrandl-1B Delux, Ocean View- US\$14,000 week#2-17-OccidentalGrand-JR Suite - OceanView - US\$16.000

week# 1-17OccidentalGrand-JR. Suite, Oceanview - US\$13,000

week# 1-17OccidentalGrand-EX Studio, PoolView - US\$9,000 week#2,3,4,-LaCabana-1Bdx

R#401d,OceanFr.-US\$15,000pw week# 5 & 6-La Cabana - 1Bdr

R#401d-OceanFront-US\$18,000 week# 6 -DiviPhoenix -1Bdr R#601-Oceanview-US\$10,000

week#7 - Renaissance - 1Bdr R#2537, PoolOcean-US\$15,000 week# 3 & 4-Renaissance.-1Bdr

Groundfl,Oceanv-US\$30,000pw PlatimumW#1-17,Marriott Surf -

3bdr.OceanView -US\$50.000 ForRent: DiviPhoenix week#4&5

2009 R#108,- US\$1,500 perwk week# 1&2, Aruban Resort-1Bdr

week# 2, Aruban Resort-1Bdr. R#4584, Poolview - US\$8,000

R#4585, Poolv - US\$8,000 pw

week# 1,2,3,4 ArubanRes-1Bdr. R#1586,poolview- US\$8,000pw week# 1.2.3.4 ArubanRes-1Bdr.

R#3586, poolv- US\$7,000pw week# 4 Aruban Resort- 2Bdr.

R#5510,poolview- US\$14,000 For Rent.ParadiseB- week 4&5 R#108,poolv- US\$1,500pw

Platinum W#1-17.Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanSide -US\$33,000

Platinum W#1-17.Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanView US\$30,000

Week# 7,La Cabana - 1Bdr. Room#339,OceanFr-US\$8,000

Week# 7, La Cabana - 1Bdr Room#429c,OceanVi-US\$9,000 For Rent, Renaissance - 1Bdr week 4, Oceanview - US\$1,500

Week# 7 Aruban Resort - 3Bdr R#2506a, poolv - US\$30,000

Week# 5 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr. R#613,PoolOcean-US\$18,000

Week# 6 - The Mill Resort-1Bdr R#220a, Poolview - US\$7,500

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PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean 2Bdr,OceanView-US\$26,000

PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean 2Bdr,OceanFront-US\$60,000

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R#1014,OceanView-US\$24,000 Platinum, Marriott Ocean CLub 2Bdr. OceanFront - US\$35,000 week# 4, Costa Linda - 2Bdr.

R#2012.Oceanview.-US\$24.000 week# 6. Costa Linda - 2 Bdr.

R#1010,Oceanview-US\$24,000 week# 5 - Costa Linda - 2 Bdr. R#3004,Ocean/Pool-US\$26,000

week# 4&5,Costa Linda -2Br 4th floor, Ocean P-US\$60,000

week# 4 & 5 DiviPhoenix -studio R#108,OceanFR-US\$12,000pw

week# 2.Aruban Resort-1 Bdr. R#4584 ,PoolView-US\$.8,475 week# 1.Paradise B.V - 1 Bdr.

week# 2, ParadiseBV - 2Bdr. R# 207,Ocean/Pool-US\$15,000 week# 3&4, ParadiseB.V - 1Bdr.

R#101,Ocean/p-US\$12,000pw

R#227, Oceanfront-US\$15,000

week# 4, ParadiseB.V - 2Bdr. R#129,Oceanfront - US\$24,000 2xPlatinum(1-17)Marriott Ocean 2Bdr,Oceanview - US\$22,000

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week#3-4. DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr R#416,Oceanfrnt-US\$25,000pw

week# 4 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr R#901- Oceanview-US\$11,000 week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr.

week#5-DiviPhoenix-2Bdr/2bath R#206,Oceanfront US\$20,000

R#1001,Oceanv- US\$10,000

week#6-7-DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr R#302,Oceanfro.-US\$25,000pw

week# 3 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr R#209-OceanFront- US\$10,000 week# 5 - Aruban Resort - 1-Bdr R#5537g-Poolview-US\$7,000

weeks#50,51,52,-DiviLinks-1Bdr R#4226-,Ocean/p-US\$16,000pw week#1-2,-3 -DiviLinks - 1Bdr R#4226,Ocean/P-US\$16,000pw

week# 4 - DiviLinks - Studio. R#2108.Poolv - US\$14.000 week# 4-DiviLinks -1 Bdr.

R#2105,Poolview-US\$16,000 week# 5- DiviLinks - Studio

R#2214, PoolV.- US\$14,000 week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 2 Bdr R#302,OceanFront-US\$23,000

week# 7-DiviPhoenix - studio R#105,OceanPo,US\$11,500

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R#269,Oceanfront-US\$27,000 week# 5&6-La Cabana - 2Bdr

R#440b&c,Oce/p-US\$20,000pw week# 5 - La Cabana -1Br

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ONU pide a bolivianos trabajar juntos para aplicar Constitución

LA PAZ (Reuters) - La ONU la nueva Constitución. exhortó el martes a los líderes políticos bolivianos a trabajar juntos para acabar con las divergencias, dos días después de que el presidente Evo Morales ganara un referendo que le permite aplicar una nueva Constitución socialista. Tras obtener alrededor del 60 por ciento de los votos, Morales volvió a rechazar el martes un nuevo pacto político exigido por la oposición, pese a que al menos cuatro de los nueve departamentos que conforman país andino votaron mayoritariamente en contra de

El secretario general de la Organización de Naciones Unidas (ONU), Ban Ki-moon, exhortó "a todos los líderes políticos en Bolivia a trabajar juntos, de ahora en adelante, para construir un próspero e inclusivo futuro para su país". El Gobierno y la oposición derechista han estado algunos

tornado violentas.

Ban saludó el "clima pacífico que prevaleció durante la votación, así como el gran nivel de participación" y felicitó al pueblo boliviano "por su demostración de responsabilidad cívica".

La comisaria europea de Relaciones Exteriores, Benita Ferrero-Waldner, hizo un vigencia en febrero, cuando se espera que la Corte Nacional

empobrecido país, entraría en Electoral (CNE) publique el resultado oficial final del referendo.

llamado el martes "a todas enfrentadosprincipalmentepor las exigencias de autonomía las partes para que juntas prefectos construyan el diálogo y el consenso imprescindible para (gobernadores) contrarios a Morales. En ocasiones, las el desarrollo del país". La nueva manifestaciones a favor o en carta magna, instrumento \$ 337,000 central de la "refundación" del contra de ambos grupos se han

Perú:

OIT pronostica 2,4 millones de desempleados en AL

LIMA (AP) - Un impacto "considerable" tendrá la crisis económica global este año en América Latina y el Caribe, donde hasta 2,4 millones de personas podrían perder sus empleos si los gobiernos de la región no adoptan medidas para hacer frente a la turbulencia mundial, dijo el martes la Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT).

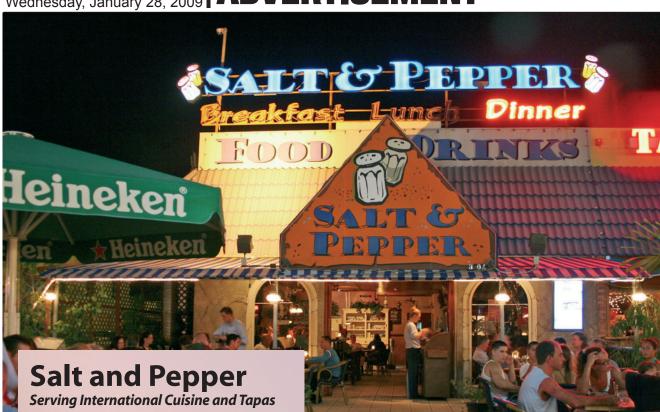
La oficina regional de la OIT en Lima dio a conocer el martes su informe anual "Panorama Laboral 2008" en el que alertó que después de seis años de reducción constante del desempleo en la región, la crisis revertirá esa tendencia ocasionando un aumento a entre 7,9% y 8,3%

como promedio anual el 2009.

"Es un impacto importante porque parte de entre 1,5 millones y 2,4 millones de nuevos desempleados se van a aunar a los 15 millones que ya existen actualmente. Obviamente es un impacto considerable", dijo el Director Regional de la OIT para América Latina y el Caribe, Jean Maninat, en rueda de prensa.













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